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PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Report from Manila—Quarantinable diseases—Cholera death on steamship Coptic.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser reports, May 10, as follows:

During the week ended May 7, 1904, the quarantinable diseases reported in Manila were as follows:

	Cases.	Deaths.
Smallpox	2	3
Plague	6	5

On May 2, 1904, a few hours before the steamer *Coptic* was to sail for Hongkong, a death was reported as having occurred among the crew. Investigation showed that the individual was a fireman, that he had been ill only a few hours, and that his symptoms resembled those of cholera. A post-mortem was immediately made on board and showed the typical lesions of cholera to be present. The diagnosis was subsequently confirmed bacteriologically by the Government Laboratory. The vessel immediately proceeded to Mariveles, where the drinking water was emptied and the tanks were disinfected. All suspicious food stuffs were destroyed. The crew and steerage passengers were bathed and their effects disinfected with steam. All suspected compartments were washed down with bichloride solution. At the end of twenty-four hours, no further cases having appeared, the vessel proceeded to Hongkong. Passed Assistant Surgeon White, who is on duty there, was notified of the treatment of the vessel and of the circumstances that rendered it necessary.

The origin of the infection remains a mystery. The vessel had arrived in Manila from San Francisco the day previous, after having touched at the ports of Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki. There has been no cholera reported from any of these places for a number of months. The last case reported in Manila was on February 29, 1904, and the city has been considered entirely free from infection.

The only way in which the case can be reasonably explained is upon the hypothesis that some cholera germs probably remain in the food stuffs that are sold to the crews of visiting vessels by bumboats. The character of some of the foods which are eaten by the Chinese would lend itself readily to keeping alive the cholera germ for a long time. Some of these foods have the appearance of decaying vegetables and cuttlefish. It is extremely to be regretted that there is not some laboratory data upon a subject of this kind available.

TURKEY.

Return of the pilgrimage of 1904.

[From the Bulletin Quarantenaire, Alexandria, May 12, 1904.]

PILGRIM VESSELS ARRIVED AT YAMBO FROM TOR.

May 5: *Galioubieh*, 187 Egyptians; left Tor May 9.

May 6: *Missir*, 514 Egyptians; left Tor May 10. *Rahmanieh*, carrier of the Egyptian mahmal; left Tor May 10. *Gallaxidion*, 844 Moroccans; left Tor May 10.